

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 117043
ORIGIN SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 H-02 SCA-01 /021 R

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APPROVED BY SCA/SCS/FESTEVENS
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-----210143Z 117069 /73

P 202241Z MAY 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 117043

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:CASC

SUBJECT:ARRESTS: PRISONERS REQUEST TO TELEPHONE
CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES

REF: (A) STATE 114573 AND (B) STATE 112669

1. AS INDICATED PARA (E) REFTEL (B), SENATOR CHARLES H.
PERCY ADVISED THAT HE WOULD SEND TELEGRAM TO PRISONERS VIA
DEPARTMENT FACILITIES IN LIEU OF ACCEPTING TELEPHONE CALL.
FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PERCY TELEGRAM WHICH EMBASSY IS RE-
QUESTED TO RELAY TO PRISONERS' COMMITTEE:

"I UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST IN THE UNITED
STATES/MEXICAN PRISONER EXCHANGE TREATY. THE STATE DE-
PARTMENT HAS INFORMED ME ABOUT THE NATURE OF YOUR QUESTIONS
AND I WILL ATTEMPT TO ANSWER THEM HERE AS FULLY AS POSSIBLE.

I SUPPORT THE INTENT OF THE TREATY WHICH WILL BRING
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AMERICANS BACK TO THEIR COUNTRY AND GIVE COMFORT TO THE
FAMILIES OF THE PRISONERS.

THERE ARE, AS YOU MAY KNOW, SOME DIFFICULT CONSTITUTIONAL
QUESTIONS WHICH MUST BE DEALT WITH, BOTH BY THE
FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WHICH WILL CONSIDER THE TREATY
ITSELF, AND BY THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE WHICH WILL CONSIDER

THE ENABLING LEGISLATION. THEY CENTER AROUND THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE UNITED STATES CAN IMPRISON AN AMERICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED BY A FOREIGN COURT AND WHO DID NOT BENEFIT FROM DUE PROCESS UNDER THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION.

THE SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE WILL HOLD HEARINGS ON THE TREATY ON JUNE 15 AND 16 AND WILL HEAR FROM SEVERAL EXPERT WITNESSES WHO WILL ADDRESS THIS QUESTION.

AS TO WHETHER THE HEARINGS WILL BE EXTENDED, THE DATE PASSAGE CAN BE EXPECTED, AND THE POSSIBILITY OF WAIVER OF THE 30 DAY PERIOD BEFORE THE TREATY TAKES EFFECT ONCE IT IS RATIFIED, I CANNOT PREDICT. I WILL, HOWEVER, KEEP YOU INFORMED OF SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

I HOPE THIS INFORMATION IS HELPFUL. IF YOU HAVE FURTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO WRITE.

SIGNED: SINCERELY YOURS, CHARLES H. PERCY, UNITED STATES SENATOR. "

2. EMBASSY REQUESTED TO ADVISE DEPARTMENT WHEN ABOVE CABLE PASSED TO PRISONERS' COMMITTEE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRISONER EXCHANGE, AGREEMENTS, LEGISLATIVE MAIL, PRISONERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE117043
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCS/RGDAVIS/CEH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770181-0103
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770533/aaaabciu.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9bfac58c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Subject: ARRESTS: PRISONERS REQUEST TO TELEPHONE CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES
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